

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /151 W
-----071908Z 106451 /65

R 071805Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4534

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00387

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, PLOS, EEC, GW

SUBJ: US-EC FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. STATE 1115; B. EC BRUSSELS 12344 (76);

C. EC BRUSSELS 134

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF INFORMED FONOFF OFFICIAL OF US
WITHDRAWAL FROM ICNAF. ON THE GERMAN SIDE THERE IS
INTEREST IN ONLY ONE ISSUE IN THE US-EC FISHERY
NEGOTIATIONS, "TRADITIONAL FISHING" RESTRICTIONS. END
SUMMARY.

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2. EMBOFF INFORMED FONOFF (VORWERK) OF US WITH-
DRAWAL FROM ICNAF (REF A). VORWERK AND SCHLAPPER
(AGMIN) CONSTITUTED THE TWO-MAN FRG DELEGATION TO
US-EC GIFA NEGOTIATIONS.

3. VORWERK WAS AWARE OF IMPLICATIONS OF US DECISION
AND STATED THAT THE FRG WAS DETERMINED TO HAMMER OUT A

WORKABLE NEGOTIATING STRATEGY AT THE JAN. 17-18 EC COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS. VORWERK EMPHASIZED THAT THE GERMAN SIDE WAS VERY ANXIOUS FOR A US-EC AGREEMENT. EVEN THOUGH GERMAN VESSELS NORMALLY FISH US WATERS IN AUGUST, VORWERK UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROCESS OF ALLOCATING SURPLUS US FISH COULD BE COMPLETED MONTHS BEFORE THAT.

4. REGARDING THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN THE US AND EC, VORWERK NOTED THAT THE FRG FELT STRONGLY ONLY ABOUT THE "TRADITIONAL FISHING" ISSUE. HE LINKED THIS CONCERN TO OTHER EC-THIRD COUNTRY NEGOTIATIONS AND SPECIFICALLY TO THE NORWEGIAN TALKS. THE FRG WANTS TO FORESTALL ANY BILATERAL TRADE-OFFS OF ALLOWABLE CATCH LIMITS WHICH MIGHT BE WRITTEN INTO EC-THIRD COUNTRY AGREEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, A BRITISH-NORWEGIAN TRADE-OFF WITHIN AN EC-NORWAY AGREEMENT WOULD DAMAGE FRG INTERESTS IN NORWEGIAN WATERS. THUS, THE FRG WAS SENSITIVE TO SETTING A PRECEDENT IN A US-EC AGREEMENT WHICH SINGLED OUT INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBERS. THE FRG HAS LITTLE TO OFFER THIRD COUNTRIES IN EXCHANGE FOR FISHING RIGHTS.

5. ON THE ARBITRATION ISSUE, VORWERK STATED THAT THE GERMAN SIDE HAD OVERCOME THE OPPOSITION OF THE FONOFF LOS EXPERTS MONTHS AGO. THE BATTLE WAS DIFFICULT, BUT THE LOS PEOPLE HAD FINALLY BEEN SATISFIED THAT A RATIFIED LOS TREATY WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT ACT. VORWERK ATTRIBUTED THE

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HARDENING ON THE ARBITRATION ISSUE BY THE COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 14 (REF B) TO THE FACT THAT FRENCH LOS EXPERTS ONLY RECEIVED A COPY OF THE BRACKETED GIFA TEXT IN DECEMBER. THESE EXPERTS OBJECTED, AS HAD THE

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SAL-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /151 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4535
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00387

GERMAN EXPERTS EARLIER, AND FORCED THE FRENCH DELEGA-
TION TO RAISE THE ISSUE AGAIN.

6. VORWERK CLAIMED THAT THE IMPRISONMENT ISSUE IS
ALSO A FRENCH CONCERN DUE TO FRENCH FISHING IN
AFRICAN WATERS. THE FRENCH WORRY THAT A PRECEDENT
FOR IMPRISONMENT WILL OPEN UP THE POSSIBILITY OF
FRENCH FISHERMEN SITTING IN AFRICAN JAILS. THE
LOS PRINCIPLE ON THIS ISSUE WAS DOWNPLAYED BY
VORWERK.

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7. VORWERK STATED THAT THE ANADROMOUS SPECIES ISSUE
IS RELATED TO THE BAD PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD BE SET
FOR EUROPEAN WATERS WHERE INTERDEPENDENCE IS MORE
OF A PROBLEM AND COMMON MANAGEMENT THE ONLY SOLUTION.
HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG HAD VERY LITTLE
INTEREST IN PRESSING THIS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WITH
THE U.S.

8. ON THE COMMON EC FISHERY POLICY, VORWERK STATED
THAT, EARLY ON, THE FRG HAD BELIEVED THAT AGREEMENTS
WITH THIRD COUNTRIES WOULD PROVIDE AN IMPETUS FOR
PROGRESS ON INTERNAL ISSUES. BUT EXPERIENCE TO DATE

IS SHOWING THAT SOME THIRD COUNTRIES ARE AWAITING
INTERNAL EC DECISIONS BEFORE PUSHING FOR AGREEMENT.
FOR EXAMPLE, NORWAY SEEMS TO BE WAITING FOR A
DECISION ON THE BRITISH 50-MILE EXCLUSIVE ZONE.

9. COMMENT: THE FRG WANTS A SIGNED GIFA VERY
BADLY, SINCE THEIR FISHING INTERESTS IN US WATERS
ARE GREATER THAN THOSE OF THE OTHER EC MEMBERS.
VORWERK IMPLIED THAT THE FRG WILL PUSH DURING THE
EC COUNCIL MEETING FOR A FORTHCOMING RESPONSE TO
THE US AT THE RESUMED GIFA NEGOTIATIONS. THEIR
ONLY REAL PROBLEM LEFT IS THE "TRADITIONAL FISHING"
ISSUE, AND THEY SEEM READY TO ACCEPT A GOOD
COMPROMISE THERE TOO.
STOESSEL

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